

The People's Press.

VOL. XX.

SALEM, N. C. DECEMBER 25, 1872.

NO. 52.

The People's Press.

L. V. & E. T. BLUM,
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

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Select Miscellany.

Schoolmaster of Russian Bar.

"When is he expected?"
"They said he was coming in to-night's stage."
"He taught in Frisco, didn't he?"
"Yes, I guess he was in the department."

The Doctor's wife was an authority on all matters in Russian Bar, and on this last occasion she was the one who had been waiting for the schoolmaster. She was a woman of about thirty years of age, with a face that was as bright as the sun, and a figure that was as graceful as a swan. She was dressed in a simple, but elegant, black dress, and she was looking out of the window with a smile that was as sweet as honey.

On the very evening of the expected arrival, Seymour and Walker, the leading spirits of the Russian school-boys, met at a pool, from which both were endeavoring to coax a few speckled trout for supper. "Have you heard what the new chap is like, Sam?" said Ike, as he inhaled a wriggle worm on his hook.

"No; have you?"
"Father told Jake, the bartender, that he was very young."
"And small?"
"Yes."
"Guess he won't stay long in town, Ike?"

"I guess not, Sam. School ain't good for us, such fine weather as this."
The worthies sat and fished in silence for some time, and then Ike produced a bunch of cigarettes and passed them to his friend. At last, finding that the fish would not bite, they shouldered their poles and struggled up towards the village, pausing for a moment to stone a Chinaman's rooster which had strayed too far from the protecting wash house.

THE SCHOOLMASTER.

Philip Houghton was a schoolmaster from necessity, and not taste. Like many who have been educated as gentlemen in one sense of the word, that is, without the acquaintance with any special pursuit that might be turned to good account in the struggle for bread, he found himself adrift in California, with nothing to fall back on. Seeing an advertisement in a city paper for a competent teacher to take charge of the school at Russian Bar, he answered it, and was accepted at a venture. Putting his few belongings together—a pair of old boots and a set of well-worn boxing gloves, for Houghton was an accomplished boxer and fencer—he bought his ticket for Russian Bar.

He found the stage driver a communicative, pleasant fellow, who, at his request described the characteristics of his future home. Indeed, his descriptions of the class of boys whom Houghton was to take charge of, was not very encouraging—"You'll find them a hard lot," said he, "and they're all on the music, too."

"What is about the weight of my oldiest?" asked Houghton, good humoredly. "You see, if I have got to exercise something more than moral suasion, I want to get posted on the physique of my men."

"Well, Sam Seymour is about the strongest."
"But what is about the size of the redoubtable Ike?"
"Well, I guess he tops you by half a head."

"O, I expect we'll get along well enough together," said Houghton, "and I suppose this is the first glimpse of Russian Bar," he added, as a turn in the road brought them in view of that picturesque village. The stage howled along the smooth road, and past the great white-oak under whose friendly branches the teamsters were accustomed to make their noon-time halt.

to Mrs. Blunt. Meanwhile Houghton had washed off the red dust of the road, and took his seat at the supper table. The driver had introduced him to about a dozen of the leading citizens during the few minutes that intervened between their arrival and the evening meal.

"How do you like our town, Mr. Houghton?" asked the landlord, graciously, as he helped his new guest to a piece of steak.

"Well, it seems a pretty place."

"When you get acquainted you'll find yourself pleasantly situated; but you'll have a hard time with the boys."

"So they all tell me. Anyhow, I am not unprepared," said Houghton cheerfully.

After supper the landlord remarked confidentially to the Doctor, "that the young man had grit in him, and he thought he'd be able to 'make the rifle' with the boys."

THE FIRST DAY.

When Houghton arose next morning and opened his window to the fresh breeze, odorous with the perfume of the climbing honey-suckles, he felt that after all, a residence in a remote village, even with a parcel of rough boys to take care of, was preferable to the dusty, unfamiliar streets of San Francisco. He smiled as he unpacked his fowls and boxing-gloves, a little sadly, too, for they were linked with many pleasant associations of his undergraduate days.

"Well," he soliloquized, as he straightened his arm and looked at the finely developed muscles, "I ought to be able to hold my own in a stand up fight with these troublesome pupils of mine. This is my day of trial, however, and before noon we shall probably have had our battle out."

The school-house, a raw unfinished looking frame building, stood hard by the river at about half a mile from the town. When Houghton opened the rickety wooden gate that led into the school lot, he found a group of some twenty boys already assembled. Among them were Sam Seymour and Ike Walker. The latter's sister, a pretty girl of 16, was leaning against the fence with half a dozen of her friends, for the Russian Bar school-house was arranged for the accommodation of both sexes.

Houghton handed the key to the nearest boy, and asked him to open the door. With a look at the others, and a half grin on his face, he obeyed.

"Now, boys, muster in," said Houghton, cheerfully, to the boys.

They all passed in—Seymour and Walker last. The latter took a good look at the schoolmaster as he went by, and when they were seated, Houghton stood at his desk and laid a heavy ruler on the books before him.

"Now, boys," he said, "I hope we shall get along pleasantly together. You treat me fairly and you shall have no reason to complain, I promise you. Silence and obedience is what I require, and a strict attention to the matter of our instruction."

Giving them a portion of the grammar to prepare for recitation, he walked quietly up and down the room, occasionally standing at the windows, but appearing to keep no surveillance on the boys. Suddenly the crack of a match was heard, followed by a general titter.

Houghton turned quietly from the window, and saw the blue smoke from a cigarette arising from where Seymour sat.

"What is your name, boy?" he asked in a stern tone.

"My name is Seymour," replied the mutineer, insolently.

"And are you smoking?"
"I guess so."
"Leave the room."

"I guess not."

There was a dead silence in the school-room now, and Houghton felt that the hour of trial was at hand.

"What?" he said again, very quietly.

"Come here."

Seymour, putting his hands in his pockets, sauntered from his desk, stood within a yard of the schoolmaster and looked sneeringly in his face.

"Leave the room," said Houghton, again, in a lower voice.

"No."

The little arm straightened out like a flash of lightning, and the rebel measured his length on the floor, whilst the blood gushed from his nostrils. In a moment he sprang to his feet, and rushed furiously at the schoolmaster, but went down again like a reed before that well aimed blow.

The second time he fell, Houghton stooped down and lifting him up as if he had been a mere child, he laid him outside the door.

Seymour, confused and amazed, staggered down to the brook to wash his face and reflect on the wonderful force of that slight arm. And Houghton, turning to the school, without a word of comment on the scene, commenced the recitations.

Walker was mum. Seymour's fate had appalled him, and in fact the entire mutinous spirit of the scholars of Russian Bar was in a fair way of being totally subdued.

When the trustees heard of the affair, they unanimously commended the schoolmaster's luck.

"I tell you what, boys," said Perkins to crowd who were earnestly engaged in the game of old sledge in his bar-room, "that Houghton knows a thing or two about managing boys. He'll fix 'em off, or my name's not Perkins."

A NEW PURSUIT.

Houghton was hospitably treated by the folks of Russian Bar. They felt him to be a man of refinement, brought down in the world, but showing no offensive superiority in his intercourse with them.

The Doctor's wife pronounced him to be the best New Yorker she had ever met, and the gossiping insinuated that Mrs. Blunt, the widow, was setting her cap for him.

Gypsy Lane, the daughter of a leading man in Russian Bar, and made wealthy by a saw-mill, which all-day long groaned and screamed some distance down the river, did not express her opinion as to Houghton's merits, but in the summer evenings, when the school-master, robed in hand, wandered along the stream, and threw his line across the mill-dam, Gypsy was seldom far away.

Lane, a bluff, hearty old fellow, frequently asked Houghton to spend the evening with him, and told his adventures in early California to a patient listener, while Gypsy dutifully mended her father's socks on the veranda.

Mrs. Lane, when Gypsy was but a boy was laid to rest in Lone Mountain, before Lane thought of settling at Russian Bar. Seymour and Walker were then and most industrious pupils the young master had, and were happy when accompanying him on his fishing excursions. In fact, all agreed in declaring that the schoolmaster was a man of a thriving success.

One pleasant evening in June, Gypsy Lane, twirling her straw hat thoughtfully, picked her way across the broad fields at day between her house and the mill. The stream was a winding one, and as she placed her tiny foot on the first stepping-stone, she saw a straw hat on the grass which she knew well.

"How is Miss Lane this evening?" asked Houghton, from beneath a magnolia bush, where he had been enjoying himself.

"Well, thank you. How is Mr. Houghton?" replied Gypsy, shyly.

"Warm, but not uncomfortable. Are you going to the mill?"

"Yes, I have a letter that has just come for father."

"May I accompany you?"

"Certainly, if you choose."

Houghton put on his hat and helped Gypsy across the brook.

"I had a letter from New York a few days ago," said he, "after they had left the first bend of the river behind."

"A pleasant one?"

"Well, although in one sense it brought good news, still I can hardly call it a pleasant letter."

They walked on, and Gypsy swung her hat pensively, longing with a woman's curiosity, to hear more about the New York letter.

"I am going to leave Russian Bar," said Houghton, abruptly.

"Indeed? how soon?"

The Grotto at Lourdes.

All France is in excitement over the miracles said to be performed at a healing fountain at Lourdes, which is situated on the northern slope of the Pyrenees mountains, in the southwestern part of the country. As the story runs, as long ago as February, 1868, Bernadette Soubirous, an invalid peasant girl, fourteen years old, with two companions, went out to gather sticks for fuel. When at the entrance of a spot known as the Grotto de Massavielle, the maiden saw a woman of angelic beauty, wearing a white dress with a blue belt. She was terrified at first, but seeing that the lady was only engaged in prayer, she imitated her. During this time the companion of the girl did not see the vision, but did notice that Bernadette's countenance changed. The vision disappeared, and the child coming to her senses, returned home and told what she had seen. No one believed her, though she had always been a truthful girl. The next day she went to the grotto again, when the vision appeared as before, and she was asked to repeat her vision for fifteen days.

In the meantime, the story of her vision was noised about and caused a great commotion. The officers of the law and the parish priest endeavored to make her own that there was no truth in the story, and being unsuccessful had her arrested as an impostor. For all this, many of the poor peasants believed the girl's story, and great crowds followed her when she went to the grotto.

At length the fifteenth day arrived, and Bernadette went to the grotto to deplore her hard fate to the beautiful lady, who thereupon bade her go upon her knees on the rock where she was till she could go no further. When there she took up some of the scanty earth about the rocks, kneaded it, and carried it to her lips. Then she dug a little hole with her hands and presently water began to collect in it. She dipped up some of this in her hands, drank it and went away. From that time the stream increased in size till the water flowed with considerable violence.

It was soon discovered that the waters of the stream possessed healing powers, and many resorted to the grotto for the purpose of getting relief from their bodily infirmities. Still the spring had only a local celebrity till some of the local authorities tried to stop what they considered a great superstition. This, however, was prevented by the Emperor, who telegraphed that no coercive measures should be used to keep the peasantry from the forest. About this time M. Henri Lasserre, an editor in Paris, visited the spring and professed to be cured of blindness. He wrote a book on the subject, from the profit of which \$60,000 was realized. From this time the spring became a great favorite, and invalids and cripples came to it, not only from all parts of France, but from distant countries. Lourdes, which was formerly only a little hamlet, has become a prosperous town. There are twelve large hotels and a great number of boarding houses. The regular passenger receipts at the railway station amount to \$1,000 per day. A church costing 2,500,000 francs, is being erected over the grotto, and numerous convents and chapels are being built on the hills around. To protect the stones of the grotto from being carried away, a railing has been built on either side. Visitors affirm that this place is completely covered with the crutches of those who came lame, but went away with the use of their limbs.

The Catholic clergy have taken advantage of the excitement caused by the real or imaginary effects of this spring to inaugurate a revival of religion as well as a revival of patriotism. Early in October a day was set for pilgrims in all parts of France to visit Lourdes. It is estimated that 50,000 persons were present at one time, including eight Bishops and 2,000 priests. Appeals were made to the multitudes to lead a better life, to observe the Sabbath more strictly, and to pay more attention to matters of religion. A part of the exercises of the occasion consists in blessing the banners of France, which were sent for that purpose from every department. Also and Lorraine sent theirs in mourning, borne by girls dressed in white. The banner of Navarre was rendered so heavy by gold and embroidery that it required six strong men to carry it.

When all the banners were ranged in a circle around an altar, the eight bishops blessed them, and at a given signal 50,000 pilgrims fell on their knees to receive the final benediction from the prelates, who stretched their hands over the multitudes.

County Papers.

The following is what the Cincinnati Trade List thinks of those characters who complain of their county paper, and instead of helping to support it, send off for large city papers and thus help to support them?

"A gentleman writes us that his county paper is so poor that he has stopped taking it, therefore sends us three dollars for the Trade List. We repeat that we don't want subscribers on those terms. A man's county paper is worth more to him than any other paper in the world, or if it is not it is his own fault. If the county paper is properly encouraged, it may be relied upon for information of more value to the people in whose interest it is issued, than can be found in all the city papers in the United States. No man can afford to stop the paper that publishes the official advertisements of his county, the public sales, markets, court news and other local intelligence. If the paper is poor, the people are more at fault than the publishers, for liberal patronage. However poor the county paper may be, it is always worth more than it costs to those interested in the affairs of its locality."

TWO PEBBLES.—The Richmond Enquirer says that the Richmond Granite Company, about four miles from that city, has just made one of the largest blasts on record. By it the company has secured a solid piece of stone, of excellent quality, sixty feet long, fifty feet deep and forty-six feet wide, measuring 138,000 cubic feet, and weighing 11,500 tons, or 23,000,000 pounds.—The enormous blast was almost equaled by the same company in 1870, when a block of granite weighing 18,000,000 pounds was obtained. We doubt if any more successful blasts are recorded.

Malleable Glass.

LOST LINKS IN THE CHAIN OF EARLY INVENTIONS—A NEW DISCOVERY.

One of the lost arts, which skill and science have for hundreds of years been making efforts to re-discover, is the production of malleable glass. It was mentioned by many ancient writers, especially by Pliny, who speaks of its having been introduced when, thrown on a hard substance, and then hammered into shape again like brass. The world uses a vastly greater amount of glass now than during the early ages, but has never been able to overcome its brittleness. That accomplished, and it would enter into uses not even suspected now, and probably dispute with iron itself for supremacy as an agent of civilization. A glass spinner in Vienna has recently made a discovery that may lead to the recovery of the lost link in the chain of early invention. He is manufacturing a thread of this material finer than the hair of the silk-worm, which is entering largely into the manufacture of a variety of new fabrics, such as cushions, carpets, table cloths, shawls, neckties, figures in broadened velvet and silk, embroidery, tapestry, lace, and a multitude of other things. It is as soft as the finest wool, stronger than silk thread, and is not changed by heat, light, moisture or acids, nor liable to fade. So important is the matter deemed, that while the process is kept a profound secret, the Austrian Minister of Commerce has already organized schools for glass spinning in various places in Bohemia, and a variety of manufactured articles are now for sale and will no doubt soon reach America. If it shall end in the final re-discovery of malleable glass, so that it can be wrought or rolled into sheets, it will revolutionize much of the world's industry. Indeed, no one could safely predict to what uses it might not be applied, as the material is plentiful in all lands. Mankind have long waited for it. Let us hope the time is near when so great a boon will be vouchsafed to them.

London Times.

What is Buddhism.

At least one-third of the human race profess to be Buddhists, that is, followers or disciples of Buddha—who are divided into sects or schools, the Northern and Southern; the Buddhists of Tibet, Mongolia, Manchuria, China and Japan being classed with the former, and those of Ceylon, Burmah and Siam with the latter. Buddha left no writings, but those who followed him and committed to writing his words, make it to consist mainly in the "Four Verities" as his followers call them which are: (1) Suffering exists. (2) It is caused by desire. (3) It can be ended by Nirvana. (4) Nirvana can be obtained by mortifying the passions and affections, and obtaining mental repose or apathy, somewhat like the state of Nirvana. The meaning of this word Nirvana is calm or untroubled; and the notion attached to it is that of endless or unconscious repose. It is not exactly annihilation, but unceasing apathy. What was taught, about it, however, was so much like annihilation that many leading Buddhist writers have maintained that when Buddha died he forever ceased to be as really and truly as the light of a lamp ceases to be when its flame is extinguished.

Other leading Buddhists deny this, and assert that it is not a discontinuance of individuality, but simply a freedom from all the evils of previous existence. The latter is probably the correct view, and it is certainly the one which the great mass of the Buddhists now believe in.

Of this ideal state of existence, Buddha himself is said to have spoken as follows: "It is the end of successive existence; it is very subtle; it is free from decay; it is free from delay or development of events; it is pure; it is tranquil; it is stable; it is free from death; its blessedness is great; it is uncreated or supernatural; it is free from restraint; it is free from sorrow; it is free from the evils of existence." This last phrase looks like annihilation, but the meaning undoubtedly is the same as in the first phrase, "successive existence." Those who reach Nirvana are few. But if any one attains the knowledge that is proper to be acquired; if he learns the universality of sorrow; if he overcomes that which is the cause of sorrow; and if he practices that which is proper to be observed, by him the possession of Nirvana will be secured.

Louisiana.

The disorder that is brought upon this State through barbarism and carpet-bagging has kept the world in a muddle as to what is the merit or the demerit of the transactions there. Just now we have a state of things which the Federal Government has taken a part in, and in which the order is given to enforce the laws.

It appears that the principle of carpet-baggers as well as of rascals, Warmoth, who is opposed to men equally as rascally as himself, if not so smart, has contrived to form a State returning board, who has given the return of the late elections to the Liberal Republican side. The returning board, under the laws of Louisiana, is composed of the Governor and four others, on whose examination and report the vote is declared. Several persons in the original board—Lieutenant Governor Herndon especially—were objectionable to Governor Warmoth, and on some pretext or other he had them removed. By legal process they had themselves reinstated and were hostile to Warmoth and the faction party, so called, in Louisiana, otherwise, the Liberal Republican party. This board took the name of the Lynch Board. The Governor, by a tortuous strategy, appointed a new board. The Lynch Board brought suit against Warmoth in the United States Court upon the pretext, we suppose, that voters were deprived of their right as well as that the board depriving them was not legally constituted, and the Judge issued an injunction restraining the Warmoth Board from deciding the result of the election. But in defiance of this declaration the Liberal ticket triumphed by 8,000 majority. On the other hand the Lynch Board issue their proclamation giving the return to the other side.—Warmoth, having disregarded the order

of the court, the Judge makes the injunction against his act permanent, and calls on the United States Marshal to take possession of the State-House and prevent the Warmoth Legislature from assembling. This body had been called in extra session by the Governor; but as legislators are powerless in opposition to bayonets, they will not be able to meet in the State-House.

Thus affairs stood at last dates. The Republican candidate for Governor of Louisiana was William F. Kellogg, now United States senator, and on the other side was John McEnery for the same office. In case Kellogg was elected it was understood that Collector Casey, the President's brother-in-law, was to be elected U. S. senator, and Governor Warmoth was to have the office in case the Liberal ticket triumphed. A pretty kettle of fish indeed. We suppose there is very little ground amongst sincere and honest people to take up the cause of either, and it is a matter of little importance which gains the victory. But the disgrace to the country inflicted by such scrambles over the public offices can never be effaced. The cause of it all—the source of the evil—is plain to all intelligent and ingenious minds; but there will not for years to come be any movement towards the correction of the evil. The time is too corrupt, and the politicians are too much wedded to their private ambition to give their reflections and their energies and influence to the cause of order and law and the promotion of the true dignity and power of the nation.

Bloody Work in Florida.

At Ellisville, a small hamlet near the Southern border of this county, a terrible tragedy was enacted on last Saturday evening. John Barre and James Barre, two men in the vigor of youthful manhood, were shot down in cold blood and brutally murdered. The circumstances, as we have been able to gather them, were as follows: There had been a feud for some time between a man named Charles Carroll and James Barre, from which more than once serious results had been expected. On the afternoon of the day named above, Charles Carroll, accompanied by his brother William and his brother-in-law, Daniel Wingate, visited the store at Ellisville, kept by James Barre. Charles Carroll being armed with a double-barreled gun. The other two had no visible arms. In a little while a furious quarrel sprang up between Charles Carroll and his brother-in-law, Wingate, and the party left the store apparently in great anger, for the purpose of having a settlement. The two Barres, John and James, followed almost immediately afterward, for the purpose of preventing, if possible, what threatened to be a very serious difficulty between the two brothers-in-law, both of whom were known to be reckless and desperate men. The two Barres, unsuspecting of danger to themselves—for no word of quarrel had passed between them and the other party—were proceeding towards the store, when the building that they were immediately shot down by means of the double-barreled gun in the hands of Charles Carroll. Jas. Barre received a charge of seven buck-shot in the upper portion of his right breast, and John Barre was wounded with an equal number of buck shot in the left breast, the charge shattering the upper portion of his arm to such an extent as to render subsequent amputation necessary near the shoulder joint. Besides these injuries, which were the fatal ones, both men received wounds in other portions of their bodies from pistol shots, which they afterward, in their death bed testimony, declared were inflicted on them by Wm. Carroll and Daniel Wingate, who they declared, came up and shot them with pistols after they had fallen. The quarrel between Carroll and Wingate is now believed, was only a sham, and intended as a ruse to decoy the Barres out of doors away from their arms, where they might be more safely slaughtered. They lingered in much agony until the following Monday, when both died, John in the forenoon of that day and James in the evening. The two men were cousins, and John had been only about a month in the neighborhood. He was a citizen of South Carolina, and it is said, was a fugitive from justice, having recently killed a Deputy United States Marshall in his own State. There was no cause of a quarrel between him and the Carrolls, but he was murdered probably because his name was Barre, and it was his misfortune to be in company with James Barre at the time it was determined to put him out of the way. About an hour or two before the shooting of the Barres, Wingate had shot a negro man named Jenkins, at Providence, in Bradford county, about two miles distant from Ellisville.—*Lake City Herald.*

It is now commonly believed that where two persons sleep together, one abstracts from the other some amount of vital force. This is especially the case where old and young persons share the same bed. Besides, in a room where there is no decided current of air, the emanations from the lungs and skin of the sleeper poisons the atmosphere for a considerable distance. In the public wards of great hospitals, never less than two and a half feet is allowed between each bed, for this reason. In the sleeping apartments of royalty and nobility single beds everywhere the rule, and nowhere the exception. The Emperor of Germany sleeps upon a narrow bed and a hard mattress. The single bed covering is a wadded silk quilt. The Emperor and Empress of Austria take their royal slumbers on similar beds, with the same description of coverlet. One of the principal advantages of these narrow beds is that the mattresses are more easily aired. Even the poorest housewife in Germany recognizes the fact that bedding requires daily airing, and on a pleasant day in winter, and nearly every day in summer, one may see stretched out of the court-yard windows for an entire half day the feather beds and coverings so dear to the heart of a German frau.—*Galaxy.*

In many sections the horses, after recovering from the horse malady, are seized with the dropsy. For this the following is given as a remedy: "Take inside bark of swamp elder, (not alder) boil with water until a very strong decoction and let the horse drink, which will soon effect a cure."

The People's Press.

SALEM, N. C.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1872.

Christmas.

Once more we greet our readers with a "Merry Christmas." 'Tis an old familiar greeting, its associations are ever joyous, and though at times they may have a tinge of sadness, when we look back upon past days and the vacant chairs in the home circle, yet, there is even then, calm, holy joy, for those who trust in the "good tidings of great joy." Yes, indeed, the salvation of the world rested upon the birth of the Christ-child.

For over eighteen hundred and seventy-two years, this season has been one of feasting and general enjoyment. The children, more particularly look forward to the holidays with peculiar pleasure, and visions of endless fun and enjoyment float through their brain.

The heart and conscience must be seared indeed, when no emotion of gladness quickens the pulsations in this ever memorable season. Dwell not upon the past, but keep up a cheerful heart, and let this Christmas season be one of unalloyed pleasure and satisfaction.

The term Christmas is derived from the Latin Church, it is properly *Christi Mass*, (the mass of Christ.)

The celebration of Christmas was formerly attended with boisterous mirth. The house or wall and dining room were decorated with holly, box and other evergreens. Candles of large size were used, and a huge log or block of wood, called Yule log or Christmas block was laid upon the fire, around which there was much beer drinking and merry-making. Parties of singers also went from house to house, singing what were called Christmas Carols.

The following article embodies all the information concerning Christmas:

CHRISTMAS DAY.—We copy from Chambers' Encyclopedia, the following history of this day:

CHRISTMAS, the day on which the nativity of the Saviour is observed. The institution of this festival is attributed by the spurious Decretals to Telesphorus, who flourished in the reign of Antoninus Pius, (138-161 A. D.), but the first certain traces of it are found about the time of the Emperor Commodus (180-192 A. D.). In the reign of Diocletian (284-305 A. D.), while that ruler was keeping court at Nicomedia, he learned that a multitude of Christians were assembled in the city to celebrate the birthday of Jesus, and having ordered the church doors to be closed he set fire to the building, and all the worshippers perished in the flames. It does not appear, however, that there was any uniformity in the period of observing the nativity among the early churches; some held the festival in the month of May or April, others in January. It is nevertheless, almost certain that the 25th of December cannot be the nativity of the Saviour, for it is then the height of the rainy season in Judea, and shepherds could hardly be watching their flocks by night in the plains.

Christmas not only became the parent of many later festivals, such as those of the Virgin, but especially from the 5th to the 8th century, gathered round it, as it were, several other festivals, partly old and partly new, so that what may be termed a *Christmas Cycle* sprang up, which surpassed all other groups of Christian holidays in the manifold richness of its festal usages, and furthermore, more than any other, the completion of the orderly and systematic distribution of church festivals over the whole year. Not casually or arbitrarily was the festival of the Nativity celebrated on the 25th of December. Among the causes that co-operated in fixing this period as the proper one, perhaps the most powerful was, that almost all the heathen nations regarded the winter solstice as a most important point of the year, the beginning of the renewed life and activity of the powers of nature, and of the gods, who were originally merely the symbolical personification of these. In more northerly countries, this fact must have made itself peculiarly palpable; hence the Celts and Germans, from the earliest times, celebrated the season with the greatest festivities. At the winter solstice, the Germans held their great Yule-feast, in commemoration of the return of the fiery sun-wheel; and believed that during the twelve nights reaching from the 25th of December to the 6th of January, they could trace the personal movements and interference on earth of their great deities, Odin, Berchta, &c. Many of the beliefs and usages of the old Germans, and also of the Romans, relating to this matter, passed over from heathenism to Christianity, and have partly survived to the present day. The church also sought to combat and banish—and it was to a large extent successful—the deep-rooted heathen feeling, by adding—for the purification of the heathen customs and feasts which it retained—its grandly devised liturgy, besides dramatic representation of the birth of Christ and the first events of his life. Hence sprang the so-called "Manger songs" and multitude of Christmas carols, as well as Christmas dramas, which, at certain times and places degenerated into farces or fool's festivals. Hence also originated, at a later period, the Christmas trees adorned with lights and gifts, the custom of reciprocal presents, and of special Christmas meats and dishes, such as Christmas rolls, cakes, currant-loaves, dumplings, &c. Thus Christmas became a universal social festival for young and old, high and low, as no other Christian festival could have become.

In the Roman Catholic Church, three

masses are performed at Christmas—one at midnight, one at daybreak and one in the morning. The day is also celebrated by the Anglo-Catholic Church—special psalms are sung, a special preface is made in the Communion Service, and the Athanasian Creed is said or sung. The Lutheran Church, on the continent, likewise observes Christmas; but the Presbyterian churches in Scotland, and the whole of the English dissenters, reject it, in its religious aspect, as a 'human invention,' and as 'savoring of papistical will-worship,' although, in England, dissenters, as well as church-men keep it as a social holiday, on which there is a complete cessation from all business. But within the last hundred years, the festivities once appropriate to Christmas have much fallen off. These at one time lasted with more or less brilliancy till Candlemas, and with great spirit till twelfth day; but now a meeting in the evening, composed, when possible, of the various branches and members of a family, is all that distinguishes the day above others.

Bible Pictures.

BY HON. R. P. DICK.

No. 1.

(From the Greensboro North State.)

The scenes in the life of our Saviour have furnished the highest themes and subjects for the genius of the poets and artists whose productions have contributed so much to the enjoyments of mankind, and elevated and refined our modern civilization.

The Bible Pictures of the Old Masters are universally conceded to be models of the highest excellence, and time has increased the admiration of the lovers of the beautiful art.

When the desolating tides of war sweep over Europe, all nations are solicitous to preserve those works of genius, and when any of them are defaced or destroyed, the event is regarded as a misfortune to civilization. It is not the skill of the artist alone that requires such reverential homage, but it is the holy associations which are suggested by their magic pencils to the yearning hearts of mankind.

The beautiful character of Christ—His eventful life—His holy mission and glorious sacrifice, touch the tenderest chords of human sympathy and love; and with a silent but wonderful power, draw all men unto Him. To the Christian, the contemplation of Christ is a source of high and unceasing joy, and he never becomes weary with the repetition of those scenes which he loves more and more, as he presses onward through the cares and trials of life to reach the Everlasting Rest.

I propose to present sketches of various scenes in the life of our Blessed Saviour, and in many of them, I fancy myself to be an eye-witness, in order that I may be the more readily give the striking outlines of the picture.

THE ADVENT.

All hail to thee, beautiful little Bethlehem Ephrathah, nestled among the fertile hills of Judah, encircled with green valleys and sparkling waters, all luminous with the evening's sunlight's glimmering sheen! How clear and serene is the sky-temple that covers thee, and how fresh and balmy are the breezes, as with laden wings they come from olive groves and vineyards, and whisper the sweet voices of nature's gladness.

Thou art well-named, Bethlehem, the house of bread, for thy store-houses are full; thy fields are rich with fatness, and thy purple wine-presses gush out new wine.

Through thy streets and open gates the stream of busy life is pouring; on thy home altars the vestal fires of domestic love are glowing, and in the quiet valley thy dreamless dead are sleeping. Thou witnessed many glorious scenes as Time has rolled his waves of ages over thee; and sweet memories are clustering round, making thee a dreamland of the heart.

From ponderous Rachel bill the youthful and loved Rachel saw thy bowing trees and festooned vines, and longed to enter thy gates with joy; but she died by the wayside and sleeps beneath those tall plumed palms, which murmur her constant requiem.

In one of thy humble homes the beautiful and faithful Moabiteess consoled the sorrows of the widowed Naomi; and there she brought the golden grain which she had gleaned in the rich harvest fields of the generous Boaz.

In these valleys the beautiful shepherd boy watched his father's flocks; and perchance beneath the shadow of those towering rocks, he tuned his harp to sing some of his immortal melodies; and within those walls he received the kingly anointment upon his kingly brow.

Along those steep paths once trod the gallant sons of Zeruiah who led the victorious armies of Israel; and close by are the gardens, fish-ponds and fountains which Solomon built, to adorn the childhood home of his noble father.

But I will muse no longer in the past, and call up associations so full of pleasing enchantments—for this is the evening preceding the Advent, the time which the prophets foretold with holy raptures, and which is the center of human history.

Crowds have filled every house in the City of David, and two way-worn travelers are standing at the gate, and seek in vain a hospitable abode among their kindred. That sweet virgin face ought to touch every chord in every heart with sympathy for it is full of beauty, gentleness and love. It is a face that might inspire the genius of a poet or painter almost to adoration. The weary travelers have at last found shelter in the stable of the inn; and in that lowly abode, with humility and thankfulness, they rest from the toils of their journey.

Now the sun has gone down in his glory, but he leaves a crown of opaline splendors upon the brow of the westward mountains. The lowing herds and bleating flocks wake the echoes from their cavern slumbers and the gentle and faithful shepherds are pre-

paring for their night watch beneath the silent stars. Arcturus with his sun, Orion with his bands, and the sweet Pleiades are glowing in the chambers of the South, and behold that strange evangel star, walking with quiet beauty through the sparkling fields of the firmament and guiding the footsteps of the devout Magi from the star-land of Chaldea. All nature is now hushed in profound repose, and even the breezes, on poised wings, seem to be slumbering. A flood of shining light beams over the valley, and the affrighted shepherds; and an angel-voice breaks the silence of the night with the glorious evangel, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." And now from a heavenly choir in the magnificent star-lit temple of nature, rises the grandest *Gloria in Excelsis* that ever thrilled the human soul.

"Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good-will toward men." With mysterious links of charity and mercy, it unites earth to heaven, and with sympathetic chords, binds together the brotherhood of man. Like a *Jubilate* of endless harmonies, it goes swelling through the long vista of the centuries, and will rise in pathos and beauty, until it shall wake again the golden harp of the angels, upon the morn of Christ's second coming. When the symphonies of the Cherubim and Seraphim had ceased, the shepherds went in haste, and in the manger of Bethlehem saw the grandest event of earth, a poor helpless babe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and yet "God manifest in the flesh."

Our Educational Wants.

One of the chief wants of the people, the increased means of education. The educational wants of our State are immense, and the more important matter to engage the attention of the Legislature.

That body is charged with a very great responsibility in this respect. Unless something effective is done, thousands of our children must grow up to manhood and womanhood in mental darkness and ignorance.

In this day of enlightenment this cannot be tolerated. It is not only our duty and privilege to educate the rising generation, but our very honor is involved in the matter. What will become of us if we neglect this great means of civilization and blessing to the country and humanity? We will become a laughing stock, a by-word and a reproach, if we fail to educate our children—not only the rich—but the poor, and all.

We feel confident that the people will cheerfully pay taxes for the purposes of education. Make liberal provisions for schools and see that they are opened and made effective. Let them be so organized as to bless and benefit the people, and word for it the people will be willing to pay for it!

We venture to trust that the Legislature has taken, or will take this matter of great importance under most serious consideration. The people expect them to do so, and in this way they can make for themselves a name and a reputation worth more than gold, and above price.—*Raleigh Sentinel.*

Proceedings of Congress from our latest dates up to adjournment, uninteresting to our readers. After the holidays, we will give particular attention to the proceedings of Congress and the State Legislature.

LIABILITY OF POSTMASTERS.—The Postmaster-General has decided that all postmasters are liable to the government for the value of all registered letters lost in their offices. This principle, which has been long maintained with respect to minor offices, has never been applied to offices where any considerable number of letters has been registered. It is now claimed that the bonds of postmasters cover such cases of loss. The definite establishment of such a principle will render the responsibility under postmasters' bonds much greater than has been supposed.

North Carolina Legislature.

In the Senate, on Tuesday the 16th, Mr. Cowles announced a contract with Patrick McGowan as Keeper of the Capitol and grounds, at \$600 per annum, being \$150 less than last year. Concurred in.

Mr. Fleming introduced a joint resolution for an investigation into the matter in which the dividends in the N. C. Railroad have been disbursed.

The bill making the willful and malicious destruction of life on railroads, by placing obstructions on the track, shooting into passenger coaches, &c., a capital felony punishable by death, passed its second reading.

The bill to charter the Snow Hill, Greenville and Goldsboro' Railroad Company, amended by a provision extending the road from Goldsboro' to Fayetteville via Newton Grove, Sampson county, passed its several readings and was sent to the House.

Also the bill to charter the Wilson and Tar River Narrow Gauge Railroad Company.

The bill appropriating \$70,000 for the support and repairs of the asylum for the insane passed its third reading and was ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to amend the charter of the Wilmington Mutual Fire Insurance Company passed its several readings and went to the House.

The Senate adopted a joint resolution providing for a working session on Thursday next, the day fixed for a recess. The resolution went to the House.

In the House, on yesterday, but little of public importance was done.

Mr. Bennett introduced a bill to repeal all acts donating lands belonging to the educational fund.

The motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill amending the charter of the Wilmington and Planters' Railroad Company passed its third reading was lost.

Pending the consideration of the Senate

bill to charter the New York, Norfolk and Charleston Railroad Company, the House adjourned.—*Raleigh Sentinel.*

The proceedings of the Legislature on Wednesday and Thursday, unimportant. Adjourned to the 15th of January. Governor Caldwell will be Governor for the next four years—so the Legislature adjourned.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, December 16.—Many bills presented, including an appropriation to Ward's Court claim, repealing the tobacco tax, refunding the taxes collected from raw cotton, repealing taxes on spirits made from fruits, removing all political disabilities, importing duty free on iron and steel from Mountain Railroad, reviving steamboat canal for Fernandina, Florida, to Orleans, improving certain Florida harbors and rivers.

Cox, of New York, moved to suspend the rules and adopt the resolution reading that the State government of Louisiana is now administered by orders from the Federal Courts, supported by the Federal bayonets, such condition of things being subversive of civil government and dangerous to liberty, and requesting the President to storm the House why the Executive of the United States interfered in the affairs of that State, giving all the facts. Also to give all information on that subject relative to the conduct of E. H. Durrell, United States Judge, there, so that the House may determine what step, if any, ought to be taken in consequence of such interference in the political affairs of Louisiana.

Stevenson of Ohio, asked Cox to omit the preamble. Cox consented to that and to the insertion of the words "If not incompatible with the public interest."

Eldridge, of Wisconsin, asked Cox not to insert these words; there could be no such thing as "incompatibility with the public interest" in matters of that kind. Congress was entitled to know by what right or authority the President interfered in the civil government of a State.

Cox said he had inserted those words so as to have the resolutions adopted without any partisan or acrimonious discussion. He only wanted the facts to come out and all the basis for the President's action in that most important matter.

Sypher, of Louisiana, denied that the President had interfered in any way in the Louisiana matters, except to order the execution of the mandates of the United States Court.

Cox declined to take the statement of Sypher or of the newspapers in the matter.

Sypher said, "I will furnish the proof of it."

Cox.—The gentleman cannot speak for the President. I want the information from the President.

Bingham, of Ohio, suggested to Cox to strike out the allusion to Judge Durrell, as the information which the President would furnish would necessarily cover the point.

Cox said he did not intend to amend the resolution any further.

Scotfield, of Penn., asked Cox to omit the closing words of the resolution "so that the House may judge, &c." which he thought implied that the House would do something, perhaps, offensive.

Cox declined to accede to the suggestion. Many Republican members—"Let us vote it down."

The resolution was rejected—yeas 79, nays 82. A party vote.

Stephenson, of Ohio, then offered a resolution, which was adopted without division, requesting the President to communicate information relative to the condition of affairs in Louisiana, and what action, if any, he has taken thereto.

Three long speeches upon the French spoliation occupied the day.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—HOUSE.—In the House to-day, General Young, of Georgia, offered his resolution regarding the Credit Mobilier, extending investigations of the committee to losses suffered by his constituents from the Union Pacific Railroad.

The resolution produced considerable excitement in the House. The resolution was choked off by a call for regular order.

The House committee on Commerce this morning held the argument on the Atlantic and Great Western Canal. Much interest was manifested, and the committee room was filled at an early hour by members from Alabama, Georgia and Virginia.

Colonel B. W. Frobel opened the case in a carefully prepared address, in which he clearly pointed out the national importance and the great need of this interior line, and showed pointedly and clearly the decline of our foreign trade; the evils under which our home industries suffer; the causes which force the manufacturers to seek protection and the depressing influences operating against the South and West. He pointed out the cause of the evil and the remedy to be applied, which he stated was clearly set forth in the President's message, and closed with a glowing description of the future of this country, with every section reglified again in the bonds of peace and good will toward each other. The argument was listened to with marked attention.

Colonel Price followed in an able argument on the beneficial effect of this outlet in regulating the money market of the country.

The Committee will report the bill at an early day. The views of these gentlemen attract attention as showing that the South is taking a deep interest in the material prosperity of the country, and that she is looking closely into the question of national trade and finance with the object not of throwing obstacles in the way, but herself taking step to the music of advancement.

Col. Whitley, Gen. Jubase and Young took part in the discussion, and ably seconded the efforts of Col. Price and Frobel.

Mr. Porter's bill prohibiting the collection of double rates of postage where full rates are not prepaid was adopted by the House Postal Committee to-day. Also a bill establishing the letter-carrier system in all cities of twenty thousand population.

FOREIGN.

The floods in England are unprecedented. Windsor and Eton are inundated. In some sections of the midland counties only the tops of trees and hedges are visible, and at Peterborough, Northamptonshire, many residents have taken refuge in the upper stories of their houses. In the last ten days 449 persons have perished by storms at sea.

The floods in Paris are so extraordinary that some of the bridges across the Seine are expected to be swept away. A gale of unprecedented violence has also swept over Naples, causing great destruction of shipping in the bay.

Rome, Dec. 21.—Victor Emmanuel has recovered from his recent illness.

The Empress of Russia is expected at Naples, accompanied by the Russian fleet.

The Boasted Freedom of Elections. The Americans boast of freedom of elections as fast becoming an idle, empty, meaningless phrase. It is not enough that citizens should be allowed to vote, but their votes must be effective or the whole system of suffrage will be a hollow mockery. Under these modern appliances, invented by the cunning partisans of Radicalism, suffrage has become a mere sham. The voters attend the polls and cast their votes, but if a majority declare against the Radical candidates, their will is frustrated by a false count. In those few instances in which the count is honestly made a new device has been invented by which, as in the case of Louisiana, affidavits are trumped up to show that such and such persons have been prevented from voting, and the ballots attached to such affidavits are counted—enough of them to defeat an election. We all know the facility with which negro votes may be manipulated to meet any party exigency, and how easy it is for unscrupulous party managers to procure from them any number of affidavits. This new villainy has been put in practice to give success to the Custom-house party in Louisiana, against the honest popular vote, and the United States troops, under the sanction of the authorities at Washington, are actively co-operating to annul the recorded will of the people of that State, and to install a bogus Governor and Legislature.

What a mockery it is, with such examples before us, to talk about the freedom of elections?

In 1843, Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State, wrote to Hon. Thomas Ewing, the Secretary of the Treasury, the following letter:

Sir—The President is of opinion that it is a great abuse to bring the patronage of the General Government into conflict with the freedom of elections; and that this abuse ought to be corrected wherever it may have been permitted to exist, and to be prevented for the future.

He therefore directs that information be given to all officers and agents in your department of the public service, that partisan interference in popular elections, whether of State officers or officers of this government, and for whomsoever, or against whomsoever it may be exercised, or the payment of any contribution or assessment on salaries or official compensation for party or election purposes, will be regarded by him as a cause for removal.

It is not intended that any officer shall be restrained in the free and proper expression and maintenance of his opinions respecting public men and public measures, or in the exercise, to the fullest degree, of the constitutional right of suffrage. But persons employed under Government, and paid for their services out of the public Treasury, are not expected to take an active or officious part in attempts to influence the minds or votes of others; such conduct being deemed inconsistent with the spirit of the Constitution, and the duties of public agents acting under it; and the President is resolved, so far as depends upon him, that while the exercise of the elective franchise by the people shall be free from undue influences of official station and authority, opinions shall also be free among the officers and agents of the Government.

This letter shows the high tone that prevailed at the period illustrated by such men as Webster and Clay. Since their day and under Radical auspices a marked change has taken place. Not only are the officers of the Government permitted, but they are actually required to interfere in popular elections. We wish that this was all, but it is not half. The conduct of the officials in Louisiana, shows that after an election has been made, they are permitted if not required, to annul it by decrees of United States courts, enforced by United States troops.

What would Daniel Webster have said if he had lived to see such enormities.

Exchange.

A Shocking Deed—Particulars of the Murder of Two Small Children by their Father in Ohio.

(From the Cincinnati Commercial.)

COLUMBIA, Dec. 13.—One of the most inhuman and brutal murders ever perpetrated in this part of the State, was committed yesterday morning at 7 o'clock, about three miles southeast of this place. Erben G. Porter, the perpetrator of this horrible deed, and his family, consisting of a wife and two little daughters, aged one and three years, resided in the same house with his father-in-law, Mr. Henry F. Flickinger. At the time the murder was committed Mrs. Porter and her three brothers, Jacob, John, and Solomon, and her sister, Lydia, were in the house, and all except Mrs. Porter, were engaged in cracking walnuts. Erben Porter, after going up stairs and putting on three shirts, came down with a hatchet, and seated himself with the other members of the family, and commenced cracking and eating the nuts showing nothing unusual in his manner.

After a brief interval, Mrs. Porter went up stairs to attend to some work. Porter quietly arose and walked into an adjoining room, where his oldest child was alone.

After closing the door, he struck the child three blows with the sharp edge of the hatchet, cutting a terrible gash at each stroke on the top of the head, either of which would have produced almost instant death. He then opened the door leading into the room in which the other members of the family were seated, and seized his youngest child, dragged it into the room and struck it two blows on the top of the head, burying the hatchet deep into the brain at each stroke. He then walked into an adjoining room, and threw the hatchet, all covered with blood and brains, into a wood box, put on his hat, and started out of the house, passing, as he did so, his wife, who on hearing the first child utter a pitiful cry as he struck it the first blow, had come down stairs to see what was wrong.

On seeing her husband throw down the hatchet she asked him what he had done. His answer was, that he had done what he ought to have done before, and he could not help it. She hurried to the room where the dead had been committed, and seeing her children lying in their own blood, ran out to the road, and gave the alarm to the neighbors, several of whom lived near, and were on hand in a few minutes.

Porter, after leaving the house, made his way at a rapid rate to this place, and thence to Leetonia. He was followed to this place by one of his neighbors. Dispatches were sent in every direction, and a large number of persons started in pursuit of him. Immediately on the receipt of the dispatch at Leetonia it was placed in Marshal Rollin's hands, who, in about twenty minutes, saw Porter crossing the railroad track, and started after him. On approaching him, Porter turned round and gave himself up, admitting that he had committed the deed, and asking the officer to protect him from those who were in pursuit of him.

The Marshal brought the prisoner to this place on the 9.55 p. m. train, and he was immediately arraigned before Joseph Rohrbach, Esq., for a hearing, when he pleaded not guilty to the charge of wilful murder. After hearing the testimony in the case the Justice committed him for trial at the next term of the court of Common Pleas, and sent him, under a strong escort, to New Lisbon.

The Next Congress.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives has prepared, as far as he is able at this time, the roster of the next House of Representatives. The full membership will be 292. The Democrats must have, therefore, 98 votes to break the two-thirds majority of the Republicans. Thus far the Democrats have 89 votes, and New Hampshire and Connecticut have yet to elect their members. The relative strength here given does not also include the members from Florida, Louisiana, or West Virginia, these being subject to future decision. There is a prospect that five, or at most six, more Democrats may be added, making in all not more than 95, or three more than a third of the membership.—*Baltimore American (Radical).*

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS. It appears from the annual report of the Librarian of Congress that there are in that library an aggregate of 246,345 volumes and about 45,000 pamphlets; being an increase from last year of 9,500 volumes. During the past year there have been received under the copyright law 6,350 books, 5,456 periodicals and pamphlets, 4,614 musical compositions, 36 domestic compositions, 531 photographs, 4,712 engravings, chromos, and prints, and 441 maps and charts—the total being 22,140.

New York, December 21.—George P. Putnam, the publisher, was in unusual health and spirits in his store this morning, when he fell, striking his head against a projecting shelf, causing death from apoplexy.

GENERAL NEWS.

Louisiana Affairs.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—It can be positively stated, on good authority, that Judge Bradley has not signified any intention to go to New Orleans during the present term of the United States Supreme Court, and it is pretty certain that he will not do so unless requested by the President, who, as the head of the political department of the Government, is more especially charged with the political relations between the States and the General Government.

It is understood the Supreme Court does not regard itself as having any power over the question, whether Judge Bradley should or should not go to New Orleans; and his going there at all, at this juncture, at the request of private parties, or from his own volition, might have the appearance of distrust of the two judges already at or near the spot. He would be very reluctant to take such a step, however willing to do anything in his power to aid in settling the unhappy difficulties which exist.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Fourteen ringleaders in the recent disorders have been imprisoned for various terms.

Heavy snow and north wind yesterday. Snow and frost in Yorkshire cause railways to be impeded. The streams are much swollen.

Dec. 18.—A 24 hours' rain storm. Large tracts of land in Leicestershire flooded. A twelve inch snow in Derbyshire.

The small-pox in Washington is increasing, form mild.

Hon. A. H. Stephens cannot walk without the aid of his crutches and a servant and can leave the house only on pleasant days.

A famous rose tree in the Island of Ceylon is eighty feet in circumference and fifteen feet high. It has been known to bear two hundred roses in full bloom at one time.

Mr. A. J. Newton, Jr., of Jasper county, Ga., had nothing at the close of the war except a horse and saddle. He now owns 2,000 acres improved lands, 20 head of horses, mules and other stock, and makes 100 bales of cotton per year.

New York, Dec. 18.—A snow storm commenced here this morning.

A most affecting scene occurred at the undertakers yesterday, when the wife of the murdered man, Jurga, entered and threw herself on the body of her murdered husband, declaring that she would be taken to the grave with him, and exclaiming amid violent sobs, "My good, kind husband, and this is my Christmas, this is my New Year. You left me yesterday, hale and hearty and here you are dead and cold," &c. She was finally carried away by physical force.

New York, Dec. 21.—The ship Matchless, heretofore reported lost, with all on board, off Northumberland county, England, is safe.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—General Crook is visiting friendly Indians to fight against those that are hostile. If let alone he expects to make a short and decisive campaign.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Dispatches from New York, St. Louis and Chicago report a violent snow storm prevailing.

MONTGOMERY, Dec. 20.—The House permanently organized to-day by the election of Republican officers. The disposition to retract former action is no longer visible. Everything seems to be harmonious. The Senate did nothing.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—There was a smart earthquake on Sunday morning throughout Oregon and the Northern Coast.

New York, Dec. 17.—W. W. Orton has bought fifty-one shares, a controlling interest in the *Tribune*. Whitelaw Reid sold four shares for forty thousand, and retired. Jay sold two shares for \$20,000. It is understood that eight of Orton's shares are reserved for Colfax.

The noted lottery dealers John Simmons and Nicholas H. Durges, fought to-day. Result fatal to Durges. Simmons refuses to make a statement of the origin of the difficulty. Both were immensely wealthy.

At a recent term of Judge Rives' Court in Abington, the *Virginia* says: "The old case, known in this country for the last forty years, as the *Vint & Allen* case, came up and was disposed of at last. Decree rendered in favor of devise of John Vint, involving the title to one eighth of King's Saltworks."

Edward A. Pollard, Editor and Author is dead.

LOCAL ITEMS.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

DIVINE SERVICE in Moravian Church at Salem, every Sunday at 10 o'clock, A. M. and 7, P. M.

Weekly Prayer Meetings every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock.

Monthly Missionary Prayer Meetings 1st Monday evening in every month.

Moravian Church Sunday School, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

Elm Street Sunday School, at 1 P. M.

DIVINE SERVICE will be held hereafter in the Presbyterian Church, in Winston, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, at the following hours:

Morning Service and Sermon at 10 o'clock.

Evening Service and Sermon at 6 o'clock.

Congregational Sabbath School and Bible Class every Sunday at 3 o'clock, P. M.

DIVINE SERVICE in Methodist E. Church, in Winston, every Sunday at 10 o'clock, A. M., and 7, P. M.

Sabbath School every Sunday at 8, A. M.

THE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT at the Academy, on Friday evening last, was largely attended, although the weather was extremely unfavorable. Everything we learn, passed off exceedingly well.

A HEAVY SLEET, followed by considerable rain, made out-door locomotion quite disagreeable for several days last week. Since then it has been clear and cold, and the muddy roads are firmly frozen.

LECTURES.—The disappointments in our advertised lectures, were all beyond the control of the Committee of Arrangements of the Reading Club. These untoward circumstances have not, however, discouraged us sufficiently to prevent other arrangements after the holidays. Early in January, arrangements will probably be perfected, so as to announce a regular course.

THE RICHMOND WHIG.—In January, 1873, this excellent paper enters its fiftieth year, an event which will be celebrated with an entire new equipment of type and material. The Whig is one of the institutions of Virginia, and has taken a prominent part in all the leading measures to advance the interests of the Commonwealth. In fact the files of the paper may be designated as the annals of Virginia.—Towns, Daily 1 year, \$8; Semi-Weekly, \$5; Weekly, \$2. A deduction to clubs.—Address, Richmond Whig, Richmond, Va.

SUPREME COURT.—This tribunal will assemble in regular session, in this city, on the 1st Monday (the 6th) of January, next.

On the first two days of the term, applicants for license to practice law will be examined.

Appeals from the several Judicial Districts will be called in the following order, viz:

1st. week, First and Second Districts.

2nd. " Fourth and Fifth Districts.

3rd. " Third and Seventh Districts.

4th. " Eighth and Ninth Districts.

5th. " Tenth and Eleventh Districts.

6th. " Twelfth and Sixth Districts.

Raleigh Sentinel.

The Hillsboro Recorder is gratified to learn that Mr. Andrew Mickle, of Chapel Hill, has been appointed receiver of the dividends arising from the State's interest in the stock of the North Carolina Railroad Company, vice Samuel F. Phillips, resigned.

A dog has just died in Charlotte that caught last winter 13 coons and 67 possums, and it was not a good season for possums either.

ROGUES.—The Advance says Battleground is cursed with cotton thieves and White-knives is troubled with hay thieves.

Charlotte plucked ripe strawberries on last Thursday while snow was on the ground.

The camping ground of a gang of robbers has been discovered near the town of Halifax.

SMALL-POX.—The Battleground Advance has heard of new cases of small-pox in Nash county.

The Asheville Pioneer says that John Dodd and Bob Jervis, who were wounded in Madison county some time since by Deputy U. S. Marshals Ray and Rice, died last week.

NEW YORK, December 17.—The Herald publishes twelve columns about Cuba.—There are 12,000 Cubans under arms. They have plenty of ammunition, but lack guns. Had they guns they could place 40,000 in the field. The struggle will be prolonged unless outside parties interfere.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 18.—There has been no further forward movement against the Modoc Indians. They are entrenched at Ben Wright's cave, near Tule Lake. The hostile camps are twenty miles apart.

There was a severe shock of earthquake at Visalia yesterday, but no damage was done.

HOW TO KEEP MEAT.—Meat is much better for family use when at least one week old in cold weather. The English mode for keeping meat for some time has great merit. Experts say, hang up a quarter of meat with the cut end up, being the reverse of the usual way, by the leg, and the juice will remain in the meat, and not run to the cut and dry up by evaporation. It is worth a trial, and when made will be continued.

Voltaire's definition of physician is: "An unfortunate gentleman, expected every day to perform a miracle—namely, to reconcile health with intemperance."

The minimum speed at which news-reports are sent is twenty-five words per minute—1,500 per hour; very often as high as forty words are sent—2,400 words per hour.

STATE ITEMS.

The Joint Printing Committee of the two Houses yesterday morning awarded the contract for the public printing for the ensuing twelve months to Messrs. Stone & Uzzell, of the Daily News.

The Charlotte Democrat is gratified to hear that several natives of Mecklenburg who moved to Texas, Tennessee and Arkansas a year or two ago, contemplate returning at an early day.

Dr. H. J. Menninger, Secretary of State, is suffering with an affection of the optic nerve of his right eye, by which it is feared he may lose it.

The Hillsboro Recorder says: A beautiful monument of Italian marble has been erected to the memory of Hon. Thomas Ruffin Jr. in the church yard of the Episcopal Church in this place. Including the pedestal, it is eighteen feet high. Upon the faces of the pedestal are just and appropriate inscriptions, commemorative of the character, services and leading incidents in the career of the illustrious dead. The pedestal is surmounted by a monolith shaft, the whole presenting a beautiful appearance.

The Greensboro Patriot says:—One of our young merchants, the proprietor of a number of tenement houses in the vicinity of Warrentonville, having among his renters one slippery old chap of the African persuasion who would not come to terms, concluded to move on the works last Monday morning and try what efficiency there might be in a keg of blasting powder. The landlord intimated that the law prohibited him from throwing a tenant out, but there was no law to prevent him from blowing up his house if the house didn't pay. By this time white was the predominant color visible in the eyes of tenant, and it is said a livelier rheumatism never scratched gravel for the ten minutes he was engaged removing his valuables from the premises in question, which done the fuse was extinguished, the door locked and the proprietor walked away with the key in his pocket.

The Messenger records the death under the following circumstances of a little boy named Pate, in Lenoir county last Wednesday: Sent into the lint room of a cotton gin by his employer, Mr. B. B. Taylor, the boy being cold conceived the stupid idea of warming his fingers by setting fire to the loose cotton adhering to them. This much he lived long enough to tell. Mr. Taylor loses several hundred dollars worth of cotton.

A CENTENARIAN GONE.—On Monday morning last, Henry Bullock, Sr., died. He lived but three months of being one hundred years of age; he was the oldest white man in Robeson county.

David Tesner of Rutherford county raised a Spanish potato this year weighing eight pounds.

James Nanny of Rutherford county is saving a 65 pound watermelon for Christmas, so says the Vindicator.

H. G. Connor, Esq., retires from the Wilson Plantation. His professional engagements render the step necessary.

CHILLICOTHE, Dec. 18.—A burning mountain in Paxton township is the sensational topic here now. The fire is supposed to have originated about the first of October, and to have caught from parties burning brush. The fire is in the interior of the hill, which is thought to be filled with coal, petroleum and other inflammable material.

DIED.

In Yadkin County, on Sunday morning last, Miss LAURA GLENN, daughter of Tyre Glenn, Esq., after a protracted illness.

At his residence in Davidson county, Mr. PHILIP SNIDER, in the 85th year of his age.

In this county, on the 17th inst., Mr. NATHANIEL ALSPAUGH, aged 72 years.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SALEM.

Meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Salem will be held at their Banking House in Salem, on Tuesday, the 14th of January, 1873.

W. A. LEMLY, Cashier.

THE MARKETS.

SALEM, Dec. 25.

Provisions.

Bacon, 12 1/2 @ 00

Lard, 12 1/2 @ 00

Pork, 7 @ 00

Beef, 5 @ 00

Mutton, 6 @ 00

Butter, 20 @ 25

Flour, 3 1/2 @ 00

Wheat, 1 40 @ 00

Peas, 1 00 @ 00

Richmond, Dec. 23.—Wheat, 1 65 @ 00

Corn, 0 00 @ 00

Peas, 0 00 @ 00

Petersburg, Dec. 23.—Wheat, 1 75 @ 00

Corn, 0 00 @ 00

Peas, 0 00 @ 00

Fayetteville, Dec. 23.—Wheat, 1 15 @ 00

Corn, 0 00 @ 00

Peas, 0 00 @ 00

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CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR.

Choice Books for Old and Young.

Elegant and Useful Fancy Goods.

ALL SPLENDID GIFTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

We call attention to the following partial list:

Best Thoughts of Charles Dickens.

Book of Elegant Extracts.

Roses and Holly, a perfect gem.

The Literary Baguet.

Standard Poems, in Elegant Bindings.

The Best Juveniles of the Season.

Toy Books, in endless variety, from 6 to 50 cents.

Book Slides, Old Stands, Work Boxes, Ink Stands,

in Rosewood, Ash, and Papier Maché.

Russia Leather Portmanteaus, Scissors in leather case.

Ladies' Companions, Leather Bags, Baskets,

Fancy Boxes, Initial Note Paper, &c. &c.

CALL AT THE BOOKSTORE.

BOOKS AT COST.

Bullion's Analytical and Practical Grammar.

David's Elements of Written Arithmetic.

First Lessons.

Practical.

University.

Intellectual.

Robinson's Progressive Higher.

Smith's Primer.

Wilson's Speller.

First Lessons in Botany.

Bullion's English and Latin Dictionary.

The above books will be sold at cost and carriage.

if early application be made at the

Dec. 12, 1872. BOOK STORE.

Bedsteads and Bedding

FOR SALE.

Esquire of T. R. PURNELL,

or L. V. BLUM.

A SPECIALTY

DR. FITZGERALD'S

RHEUMATIC SYRUP

A STATED QUANTITY

NO MONEY REFUND

\$100 REWARD FOR A CASE

of Chronic or Acute Rheumatism, Sciatica, Headache,

Lumbago, Ague, Nervousness or Kidney Affections

accepted for treatment that I cannot cure.

Nov. 21, 1872-47-ly.

For Sale at ZEVELY'S DRUG STORE.

FRESH GROCERIES.

A CHOICE LOT OF

MAPLE SUGAR SYRUP,

Bethlehem Mill Buckwheat Flour,

PEARL LARGE HOMINY,

BEEF TONGUES,

TOGETHER WITH A GENERAL ASSORTMENT

OF FAMILY GROCERIES.

Dec. 5, 1872. at CROSLAND'S.

NORTH CAROLINA, In Superior Court,

DAVIDSON COUNTY, Nov. 22, 1872.

John G. Ector, and wife Phoebe J. Ector, Plaintiffs,

vs.

David F. Brown, George W. Brown, and Nolan

Brown, Defendants.

It appears to the satisfaction of the Court by the

annexed affidavit and complaint, that the above

named defendants, David F. Brown, Geo. W. Brown

and Nolan Brown, are proper parties to this action

relating to real property in this State, in favor of the

above named plaintiffs, and that said defendants

are not residents of this State; and that said defendants

are not parties to this action, inasmuch as the

Order, that the Summons herein, a copy of which

is hereto annexed, be served by publication of the

same in the "Patriot" newspaper published in the

town of Salem, State of North Carolina, once

a week for six successive weeks.

Signed, L. E. JOHNSON, C. S. C.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

DAVIDSON COUNTY,

In the Superior Court.

John G. Ector, and wife Phoebe J. Ector, Plaintiffs,

vs.

David F. Brown, George W. Brown and Nolan

Brown, Defendants.

To the Sheriff of Davidson County.—Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon David F.

Brown, George W. Brown and Nolan Brown, the

Defendants above named, if to be found within your

FALL AND WINTER CAMPAIGN!

J. L. FULKERSON

is now offering the largest and most beautiful stock of

NEWEST STYLES DRESS GOODS,

SUCH AS

Poplin Cords, Crape Mohair, Prize Poplin, "Style of the Period."

Berlin Cords, Mohair Brocade, Paris Plaid,

Alpacas Cords, Uhlan Stripes, Mohair Plaid, bright colors,

Turcos Ja equards, Paris Suitings, Wool, DeLaines best colors,

London Stripes, Paris Poplins, Brocade, Alpacas and Mohairs, white and in colors,

Merinos, white and in colors.

Also a good assortment of *Flannels, Shawls, Repellants, Heavy Cloakings*, and

many other articles especially adapted to the tastes of the Ladies.

Cloths, Cammeres, Sattinetts and Jeans, for Gentlemen and Boy's wear.

HATS, CAPS, BOOTS AND SHOES.

Ladies' fine Shoes a specialty.

My stock comprises everything usually kept in this section of country, and many

articles of FINE WARES not generally kept here by others, to all of which I invite

the generous public. Stock replenished every week, if necessary, and special orders

promptly attended to. J. L. FULKERSON.

IT CANNOT BE DENIED.

J. L. FULKERSON has the *Finest*, Largest and best assorted stock of LADIES' DRESS GOODS ever

offered by any house in Western North Carolina.

Poetry.

A visit from St. Nicholas (Santa Claus).

(It is well known that in the days of "Fairy-land," St. Nicholas was the patron of domestic industry, and the friend of good children. He was the personification of parental kindness in dispensing Christmas gifts, &c. &c.)

"Twas the night before Christmas, when all thro' the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse—
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hope that St. Nicholas soon would be there.
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains for a long winter nap—
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I jumped from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutter and threw up the sash.
The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow,
Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below—
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, with eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be Saint-Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:

"Now, Dasher!—now, Dancer!—now, Prancer! and
Vixen!
"On, Comet!—on, Cupid!—on, Dunder and Blixen!
"To the top of the porch!—to the top of the wall!
"Now dash away!—dash away!—dash away all!
As dry leaves before the wild hurricane blow,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky—
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and Saint-Nicholas too;
And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head, and was turning around—
Down the chimney Saint Nicholas came with a bound!

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,<
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.
A bundle of toys was hung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples—how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry—
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow—
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke—it exhaled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face, and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed, and I said, in a spite of myself,
A wink of his eye, and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings;—then turned to his jerk.
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod,—up the chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away like the wind he drove off to the north;
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight—
"Happy Christmas to all!—and to all a good night!"

THE Scientific American, FOR 1873.

BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, now in its 25th year,

enjoys the widest circulation of any analogous periodical in the world.

Its contents embrace the latest and most interesting information pertaining to the Industrial, Mechanical, and Scientific Progress of the World; Descriptions, with beautiful Engravings, of New Inventions, New Implements, New Processes, and Improved Machinery of all kinds; Shipbuilding, Navigation, Telegraphy, Telephony, Engineering, Electricity, Magnetism, Light, and Heat.

The Latest Discoveries in Photography, Chemistry, New and Useful Applications of Chemistry in the Arts, and in Domestic or Household Economy.

The Latest Information pertaining to Technology, Microscopy, Mathematics, Astronomy, Geography, Meteorology, Mineralogy, Geology, Zoology, Botany, Horticulture, Agriculture, Architecture, Rural Economy, Household Economy, Food, Lighting, Heating, Ventilation, and Health.

In short the whole range of the Sciences and Practical Arts are embraced within the scope of the Scientific American. No person who desires to be intelligently informed can afford to be without this paper.

Farmers, Mechanics, Engineers, Inventors, Manufacturers, Chemists, Lawyers, Physicians, Clergymen, Clergy, and all the People of all Professions will find the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN to be of great value. It should have a place in every Family, Library, Study, Office, and Counting Room; in every Reading Room, College, Academy, or School.

Published weekly, Splendidly Illustrated, only \$3 a Year.

The Yearly Numbers of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN make two splendid volumes of nearly one thousand pages, equivalent in contents to Four Thousand ordinary Book Pages. An Office List of all Patents issued is published Weekly. 250 Specimen copies sent free. Address the publishers, MEXS & CO., 37 Park Row, New York.

In connection with the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, MEXS & CO. are Solicitors of American and Foreign Patents, have had over 25 years' experience, and have the largest establishment in the world. If you have made an invention, write them a letter and send them a sketch; they will promptly inform you, free of charge, whether your device is new and patentable. They will also send you, free of charge, a copy of the Patent Laws in full, with instructions how to proceed to obtain a patent. Address MEXS & CO., 37 Park Row, New York.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE FOR 1873.

THE GUIDE is now published QUARTERLY. 25 cents per copy for the year, four numbers, which is not half the cost. Those who afterwards send money to the amount of One Dollar or more for Seeds may also order Twenty-five Cents worth extra—the price paid for the Guide.

The *January Number* is beautiful, giving plans for making Rural Homes, Designs for Dining Table Decorations, Window Gardens, &c., and containing a mass of information invaluable to the lover of flowers.—One Hundred and Fifty Pages, on fine tinted paper, some Five Hundred Engravings, and a superb Colored Plate and Chromo Cover.—The First Edition of Two Hundred Thousand just printed in English and German, and ready to send out.

JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y.

BONNETS, HATS AND MILLINERY GOODS FOR FALL AND WINTER.

MRS. J. G. DOUTHITT hereby announces to her friends and customers, and the public generally, that she has just received a new supply of Goods for the Fall & Winter trade, among which are

FRENCH PATTERN BONNETS,
NEW STYLE FALL HATS AND BONNETS,
SASHES AND RIBBONS,
FRENCH AND AMERICAN FLOWERS,
FRENCH AND AMERICAN FLOWERS,
LACES AND EDGINGS,
GLOVES AND HANDKERCHIEFS,
HOSIERY AND CORSETS.

A variety of other articles in her line of business, which she intends to sell by being offered at such prices as cannot fail to please. Call, examine and judge for yourselves.

At the Stand one door above W. T. Vogler's Jewelry Store, 72
Salem, N. C., October 17, 1872.

A. N. ZEVELY,
[Late Assistant Post-Master General.]
ATTENDS TO BUSINESS
BEFORE THE VARIOUS
Departments of the Government.
OFFICE 421, E. STREET,
OPPOSITE POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.
Post-Office Address, Lock Box, 79, Washington City, D. C.

STEEL ENGRAVINGS S. R. BLUM'S.

A lot of small steel engravings suitable for Semp Books, at

BLUM'S.

JUST PUBLISHED BLUM'S FARMER'S AND PLANTER'S ALMANAC FOR 1873.

Orders solicited and promptly filled.
L. V. & E. T. BLUM.
Salem, N. C., Oct. 1, 1872.

ESTABLISHED 1827!

THE OLD
FRANKLIN
PRESS.

PLAIN AND FANCY
BOOK & JOB PRINTING
NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE

Dick's English Classics. The Cheapest Books ever Published.

Shakespeare.....	50 cents
Byron.....	50 "
Scott.....	50 "
Milton.....	50 "
Burns.....	50 "
Keats.....	50 "
Wordsworth.....	50 "
Coleridge.....	50 "
Keble.....	50 "
Moore.....	50 "

At the BOOK STORE.

NEAT WALNUT BOXES at low prices

TRANSPARENT SLATES, three sizes.

Cheap Post Folios, Paper Window Shades,

Fireproof Prints, Wall Paper,

INITIAL PAPER, Rose Tint, and Ornamented.

Blank Paper, Paper Fans,

New Ink Erasers,—the best thing out.

Good and cheap Writing Paper.

Gold-leaf and Record Books.

Tilden's Non-Spilling Inkstands.

and many other articles in our line.

L. V. & E. T. BLUM.

March 31, 1871.

FOR FALL SOWING!

USE THE

FARMER'S FAVORITE!

LISTER BROTHERS'

BONE MANURE

For Sale by J. B. RUSSELL, General Agent

No. 16, Bowley's Wharf, BALTIMORE, Md.

August 22. 33-2m.

"Unquestionably the best sustainer of the kind in the world."

Harper's Magazine.

Notices of the Press.

The ever increasing circulation of this excellent

monthly proves its continual adaptation to popular

desires and needs. Indeed, when we think how many

homes it penetrates every month, we must

consider it one of the educators as well as enter-

tainers of the public mind, for its vast popularity has

been won by no appeal to stupid prejudices or de-

praved tastes.—Boston Globe.

The character which this Magazine possesses for

variety, enterprise, artistic wealth, and literary culture

has kept pace with it, it has not led the times,

should cause its conductors to regard it with justifi-

able complacency. It also entitles them to a great

claim upon the public gratitude. The Magazine has

done good and not evil all the days of its life.—Brook-

lyn Eagle.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1873.

Terms:

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An extra copy of either the Magazine, Weekly or

Barz, will be supplied gratis for every Club of Five

subscribers at \$4 each, in one remittance; or six

copies for \$20, without extra copy.

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Barz, to one address for one year, \$10; or two of

Harper's Periodicals, to one address for one year, \$7.

Back numbers can be supplied at any time.

The annual volumes of Harper's Magazine, Weekly

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PROSPECTUS FOR 1873. SIXTH YEAR.

THE ALDINE.

An Illustrated Monthly Journal, universally admitted to be the Handsomest Periodical in the World. A Representative and Champion of American Taste.

Not for Sale in Book or News Stores.

THE ALDINE, while issued with all the regularity of an ordinary periodical, is an elegant miscellany of pure, light and graceful literature; and a collection of pictures, the rarest specimens of artistic skill in black and white. Although each succeeding number affords a fresh pleasure to its friends, the real value and beauty of THE ALDINE will be most appreciated after it has been bound up at the end of the year. While other publications may claim success for cheapness, as compared with rivals of a similar class, THE ALDINE is a unique and original conception,—alone and unapproachably without competition in price and character. The plan of the publication cannot duplicate the quantity of fine paper and engravings in any other shape or number of volumes. For ten times its cost; and then, there are the chromes, besides.

ART DEPARTMENT.

Notwithstanding the increase in the price of subscription last Fall, when THE ALDINE assumed its present noble proportions and representative character, the edition was more than doubled during the past year; proving that the American public appreciate, and will support a sincere effort in the cause of Art. The publishers, anxious to justify the ready confidence thus demonstrated, have exerted themselves to the utmost to develop and improve the work; and the plans for the coming year, unfolded by the monthly issues, will astonish and delight even the most sanguine friends of THE ALDINE.

The publishers are authorized to announce designs from the most eminent artists of America. In addition, THE ALDINE will reproduce examples of the best foreign masters, selected with a view to the highest artistic success, and greatest interest, avoiding such as have become hackneyed through photographs, or copies of any kind. The quarterly tinted plates, for 1873, will reproduce four of John S. Davis' fine oil paintings, each appropriate to the four seasons. These plates, appearing in the issues for January, April, July and October, would be alone worth the price of a year's subscription.

The popular feature of a copiously illustrated "Christmas" number will be continued. To possess such a valuable edition of the art world at so trifling a cost, will command the subscriptions of thousands in every section of the country; but, as the usefulness and attractions of THE ALDINE can be enhanced, in proportion to the numerical increase of its supporters, the publishers propose to make "insurance doubly sure," by the following unparalleled offer of

PREMIUM CHROMOS FOR 1873.

Every subscriber to the Aldine, who pays in advance for the year 1873, will receive, without additional charge, a pair of beautiful oil chromos, of J. H. Hill, the eminent English painter. The pictures entitled "The Village Belle," and "Crossing the Moor," are 14x20 inches, and are printed from 25 different plates, requiring 25 impressions and hints to perfect each picture. The same chromos are sold for \$30 per pair in the art stores. As it is the determination of its conductors to keep THE ALDINE out of the reach of competition in every department the chromos will be found correspondingly ahead of any that can be offered by other periodicals. Every subscriber will receive a certificate over the signature of the publishers, guaranteeing that the chromos delivered shall be equal to the samples furnished the agent, or the money will be refunded. The date of said certificates of this grade, free to the subscribers to a five dollar periodical, will mark an epoch in the history of Art; and considering the unprecedented cheapness of the chromos, and the value of the hints, and the little short of a miracle, even to those best acquainted with the achievements of inventive genius and improved mechanical appliances. (For illustrations of these chromos, see November issue of THE ALDINE.)

THE LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

will continue under the care of Mr. RICHARD HENRY STODOLSKY, assisted by the best writers and poets of the day, who will strive to have the literature of THE ALDINE always in keeping with its artistic attractions.

TERMS.

\$5 per annum in advance, with Oil Chromos free.

THE ALDINE will be supplied gratis for every Club of Five subscribers at \$4 each, in one remittance; or six copies for \$20, without extra copy.

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